

Message Text

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43

ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY S/PRS:RANDERSON:AVW

APPROVED BY S/PRS:RANDERSON

AF - AMB. SCHAUFLELE (IN SUBST)

S/AM - AMB. MCCLOSKEY

S/S - MR. SPRINGSTEEN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 296103 TOSEC 240274

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS

TAGS: SOPN (KISSINGER, H. A.), AF

SUBJECT: INTERVIEW REQUEST: MIKE WALLACE SHOW,
-- SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

FOR SECRETARY FROM ANDERSON

1. MIKE WALLACE TELEPHONED TODAY HOPING YOU WOULD AGREE TO AN INTERVIEW WITH HIM FOR A 15-MINUTE SEGMENT OF HIS SIXTY MINUTES SHOW TO BE AIRED THIS SUNDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 21, (7-8 P.M.). HE THOUGHT THAT WITH MOUNTING CRITICISM OF U.S. INVOLVEMENT IN ANGOLA, THIS WOULD PROVIDE YOU WITH TIMELY OPPORTUNITY (A) TO EXPLAIN WHAT WE ARE TRYING TO DO AND THAT WE ARE NOT SLIDING INTO ANOTHER VIETNAM, AND (B) TO PUT SUBJECT INTO PROPER PERSPECTIVE. WALLACE SAID THAT HE WOULD TAPE INTERVIEW AT TIME AND PLACE OF YOUR CHOOSING HOPEFULLY ON THURSDAY OR FRIDAY OF THIS WEEK, THAT TAPING WOULD LAST FOR 20-25 MINUTES, AND THAT WHILE YOU WOULD HAVE RIGHT TO REDO ANY PARTICULAR ANSWER, PROGRAM EDITOR WOULD SELECT QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR THE 15-MINUTE INTERVIEW.
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2. BOB MCCLOSKEY, BILL SCHAUFLE AND I DO NOT THINK THIS IS THE BEST VEHICLE IN THE EVENT YOU WISH TO MAKE FURTHER PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ANGOLA. FURTHER, THE ALLOTTED TIME FOR A FULL EXPOSITION OF THE PROBLEM, IS TOO BRIEF. WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND YOU DECLINE WALLACE'S REQUEST.

3. RECOMMENDATION: THAT I DECLINE ON YOUR BEHALF MIKE WALLACE'S REQUEST THAT HE INTERVIEW YOU ON ANGOLA FOR HIS SIXTY MINUTES SHOW THIS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21. APPROVE

ALTERNATIVELY, THAT YOU AGREE TO A 25-MINUTE INTERVIEW ON THE 8TH FLOOR OF THE DEPARTMENT ON THURSDAY OR FRIDAY OF THIS WEEK AND HAVE S/PRS MAKE THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS. APPROVE DATE TIME.
INGERSOLL

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